REMARKS

Claims 1 through 7 and 10-29 are pending in the application. Claims 8 and 9 were previously canceled. Claims 25-29 were previously added.

Claims 1, 10, 15, and 20-29 are rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,911,776 to Guck, hereinafter "Guck". Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 provides a method for composing a computer message. The method includes presenting a message composition area for entry of an unformatted message into at least one text field and for entry of data into at least one selection field associated with the text field, and a message format selector for selecting an output format from a plurality of formats. The method also includes, in response to entry of an unformatted message into the message composition area and selection of one of the output formats, converting the unformatted message to form a formatted message from the text field with format tags, the formatted message structured according to both of the one of the output formats and a selection field data from the at least one associated selection field.

Guck discloses a system for creating and storing an original document, having a first format, in an object-oriented database (col. 4, lines 41-43). The system also provides another file designated as a "shadow" file, which has no content, but is dedicated to a particular output format (col. 4, lines 43-46). The shadow file merely "points" back to the first source file with certain "object-connecting" techniques called "relationships" col. 4, lines 46-48). The shadow file also points to a converter that is dedicated to a particular output format (col. 4, lines 50-52). The converter will take the content of the source file and convert it into the desired format desired by the requester client (col. 4, lines 52-54).

Guck also discloses a "Definition Phase", during which an author creates a file

(col. 12, lines 55-56). The author creates a source file, i.e., creates a word document (col. 12, lines 56-58). Thereafter, the author defines that he is making the document available in one or many alternate formats (col. 12, lines 58-60). For each alternate format, the author creates a virtual file that will give the file at least a file name and a MIME type, which is the standard used to describe the content type (col. 12, lines 60-64).

Thus, in Guck, conversions take place from one format to another format, but with no changes of presentation or structure within the messages. Although Guck discloses selection of a MIME protocol in addition to selecting a format, selection of the MIME protocol does not act to change a structure of the original document or source file. The MIME protocol merely serves the purpose of identifying the content type (col. 12, lines 664-65); selecting the MIME protocol does not in itself alter data, originally inputted in the source file or message, that is presented in the formatted message. Therefore, Guck does not disclose entering a message into a text field and data into a selection field, and structuring a formatted message according to both a selected output format and data entered in the selection field.

Thus, Guck does not disclose a method including "presenting a message composition area for entry of an unformatted message into at least one text field and for entry of data into at least one selection field associated with said text field," and "converting said unformatted message to form a formatted message from said text field with format tags, said formatted message structured according to both of said one of said output formats and a selection field data from said at least one associated selection field," as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Guck does not disclose or suggest the elements of claim 1. Thus, Guck does not anticipate claim 1.

Claims 10, 15, 20, 21 and 23 include recitals similar to those of claim 1. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of claim 1, claims 10, 15, 20, 21 and

23 are patentable over Guck.

Claim 22 depends from claim 21, and claim 24 depends from claim 23. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of claims 21 and 23, claims 22 and 24 are patentable over Guck.

Claim 25 includes a method for composing a computer message. The method includes presenting a first message composition area including a first formatted display area, and a second message composition area.

The method also includes, in response to entry of a first unformatted plain text message into the first message composition area and a selection of one of the output formats, converting the first unformatted plain text message to form a first formatted message with format tags of the one of the output formats.

The method further includes, in response to an entry of a second unformatted plain text message into the second message composition area, converting the first unformatted plain text message to form a first formatted message with format tags of the one of the output formats, and converting a second unformatted plain text message to form a second formatted message with format tags of the one of the output formats. The method still further includes presenting the first and second formatted messages as a concatenated complete message for display in the formatted message display area.

As discussed above, Guck discloses conversions that take place from one format to another format, but with no changes of presentation or structure within the messages. Guck does not disclose entering a first message into a first message composition area that includes a formatted message display area, and a second message into a second message composition area. Guck further does not disclose converting the first message to form a first formatted message, and in response to the entry of a second unformatted plain text message into the second message composition area, converting the first message to form a first formatted message and converting the second message

to form a second formatted message, and presenting the first and second formatted messages as a concatenated complete message for display in the formatted message display area.

Therefore, Guck does not disclose or suggest the elements of claim 25. Thus, Guck does not anticipate claim 25.

Claims 26-29 include recitals similar to those of claim 1. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of claim 1, claims 26-29 are patentable over Guck.

For the reasons set forth above, the rejection of claims 1, 10, 15 and 20-29 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Guck is overcome. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1, 10, 15 and 20-29 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 2-7, 11-14 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guck in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,230,173 to Ferrel et al., hereinafter "Ferrel". Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Ferrel is directed towards a story editor that can save files in a Multimedia Document Format (MDF) file. (Abstract). These multi-media files are then used to provide content for displayed on-line titles. (Column 3, lines 43-45). However, Ferrel does not make up for the deficiencies of Guck as Guck relates to claims 1, 10, and 15. Therefore, claims 1, 10, and 15, and by virtue of their dependency, claims 2-7, 11-14, and 16-19 are all patentable over the cited combination of Guck and Ferrel.
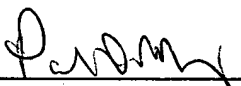
For the reasons set forth above, the rejection of claims 2-7, 11-14 and 16-19 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guck in view of Ferrel is overcome. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 2-7, 11-14 and 16-19 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

An indication of the allowability of all pending claims by issuance of a Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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